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# Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-04 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 NIC-01

SAJ-01 OMB-01 DRC-01 /187 W
---------- 019685
P 182238Z JAN 74
FM USMISSION USUN NY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2365
INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PEKING PRIORITY
AMCONSUL HONG KONG PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI PRIORITY

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 USUN 175

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PFOR UN VS PF PG
SUBJ: TEXTS OF GVN LETTER

REF: USUN 176

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF LETTER DATED JANUARY 18 FROM GVN PERM OBSERVER TO SECURITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT FACIO:

QUOTE: ON THE INSTRUCTIONS OF MY GOVERNMENT, I HAVE THE HONOUR TO TRANSMIT TO YOUR EXCELLENCY A NOTE FROM THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM ON THE BLATANT VIOLATION OF TERRITORIAL SOVEREIGNTY OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM BY THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA WHICH SENT ITS NATIONALS AND BOATS TO THE ISLANDS OF CAM-TUYEN, QUAN-HOA AND DUY-MONG IN THE VIET-NAM'S PARACELS ARCHIPELAGO.

I SHOULD BE GREATEFUL IF YOU WOULD HAVE THIS
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ATTACHED NOTE CIRCULATED AS AN OFFICIAL DOCUMENT

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OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL. UNQUOTE

2. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF ENCLOSED NOTE DATED JANUARY 16 FROM
GVN FOREGIN MINISTER TO SC PRESIDENT.

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFARIS OF THE REPUBLIC OF
VIETNAM PRESENTS HIS COMPLIMENTS TO HIS EXCELLENCY, THE
CHAIRMAN OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS, AND
HAS THE HONOUR TO BRING TO THE ATTENTION OF THE SECURITY
COUNCIL THE FOLLOWING:

ON JANUARY 11TH 1974, THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN
AFFAIRS OF COMMUNIST CHINA SUDDENLY AND FALSELY CLAIMED THEIR
SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM'S ARCHIPELAGOS OF PARACELS
AND SPRATLEY. IMMEDIATELY ON THE FOLLOWING DAY, THE SPOKESMAN OF
THE FOREIGN MINISTRY OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM REJECTED THE UNFOUN-
DED CLAIM.

DESPITE OF THIS, IN THE LAST FEW DAYS, THE COMMUNIST
CHINESE AUTHORITIES NOT ONLY REFUSED TO WITHDRAW THEIR UNREASONABLE
CLAIM, BUT EVEN OPENLY VIOLATED THE TERRITORIAL SOVEREIGNTY OF THE
REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM BY SENDING THEIR NATIONALS AND BOATS INTO THE
TERRITORIAL WATERS SURROUNDING THE ISLANDS OF CAM-TUYEN (ROBERT),
QUAN-HOA (DUNCAN) AND DUY-MONG (DRUMMOND) WHICH ARE PARTS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM'S PARACELS ARCHIPELAGO. THESE PEOPLE EVEN
LANDED ON THZ ABOVE ISLANDS, SET UP HUTS AND DISPLAYED COMMUNIST
CHINESE FLAGS, IN BLATANT VIOLATION OF THE SOVEREIGNTY AND TERRI-
TORIAL INTEGRITY OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM.

THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM
ARE INDIGNANT IN THE FACE OF THESE GROSS VIOLATIONS WHICH THEY
ARE DETERMINED NOT TO TOLERATE.

THE FACT THAT THE PARACELS AND SPRATELY ARCHIPELAGOS
ARE INDIVISIBLE PARTS OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM'S TERRITORY IS
EVIDENT AND UNDENIABLE AND IS BASED ON GEOGRAPHICAL AND HISTORICAL
GROUNDS AS WELL AS ON INTERNATIONAL LAW.

INDEED, FROM THE GEOGRAPHICAL POINT OF VIEW, THE
PARACELS AND SPRATLEY ARCHIPELAGOS ARE MUCH CLOSER TO THE SHORTS
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OF THE CENTRAL PART OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM THAN TO THE SHORES
OF THE CHINESE HAINAN ISLAND.

FROM THE HISTORICAL POINT OF VIEW, VIETNAM WAS THE
FIRST COUNTRY TO DISCOVER AND DEVELOP THE PARACELS ARCHIPELAGO.
ACCORDING TO THE HISTORICAL RECORDS KNOWN AS DAI-NAM-NHAT-THONG-
CHI, EMPEROR GIA-LONG ESTABLISHED IN 1802 THE HOANG-SA COMPANY TO
CONTROL AND EXPLOIT THAT GROUP OF ISLANDS, IN 1834 UNDER EMPEROR

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MINH-MANG, THE HOANG-SA ISLANDS WERE RECORDED FOR THE FIRST TIME EVER IN MAPS PUBLISHED BY THE COURT OF HUE, IN THE GEOGRAPHIC MONOGRAPHY KNOWN AS HOANG-VIET-DIA-DU.

DURING THE FRENCH COLONIAL PERIOD, THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDOCHINA, BY MEANS OF DECREE NO-156/SC OF JUNE 15, 1932, ESTABLISHED THE HOANG-SA AS AN ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT WITHIN THE PROVINCE OF THUA-THIEN. THIS WAS EVENTUALLY CONFIRMED BY EMPEROR BAO-DAI'S ORDINANCE NO. 10 OF MARCH 30, 1938.

ON MAY 5, 1939, THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDOCHINA AGAIN DELINEATED THE ADMINISTRATIVE LIMITS OF THE HOANG-SA GROUP UNDER WHAT WAS KNOWN AS THE "DELEGATION ADMINISTRATIVE DU CROISSANT ET DEPENDANCES" AND OF THE TRUONG-SA GROUP UNDER WHAT WAS KNOWN THE "DELEGATION ADMINISTRATIVE DE L'AMPHITRITE ET DEPENDANCES".

UNDER VIETNAM'S FIRST REPUBLIC, THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC ON JULY 13, 1961 ISSUED DECREE NO--174--NK MAKING THE HOANG-SA ARCHIPELAGO A PART OF THE PROVINCE OF QUANG-NAM INSTEAD OF THUA-THIEN PROVINCE, AND ESTABLISHED THE VILLAGE OF DINH-HAI AS PART OF THE DISTRICT OF HOA-VANG.

UNDER VIETNAM'S SECOND REPUBLIC, THE VILLAGE OF DINH-HAI WAS MERGED WITH THE VILLAGE OF HOA-LONG OF THE SAME DISTRICT OF HOA-VANG (PROVINCE OF QUANG-NAM), BY VIRTUE OF DECREE NO-709/BNG/ HC OF OCTOBER 21, 1969 BY THE PRIME MINISTER.

ALL THOSE ACTS TO ASSERT THE EXCERCISE VIETNAMESE SOVEREIGNTY OVER THOSE ISLAND WERE NOT CHALLENGED BY ANY COUNTRY, INCLUDING COMMUNIST CHINA.

FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF INTERNATIONAL LAW, THE HEAD OF VIETNAM DELEGATION TO THE 1951 SAN FRANCISCO PEACE CONFERENCE
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ON SEPTEMBER 7, 1951 DECLARED THAT VIETNAM RECOVERED HER SOVER-EIGNTY OVER THESE ARCHIPELAGOS, AFTER JAPAN HAD SURRENDERED TERRI-TORIES IT OCCUPIED BY FORCE OF ARMS DURING THE SECOND WORLD WAR. NONE AMONG THE 51 COUNTRIES PARTICIPATING IN THAT CONFERENCE RAISED ANY OBJECTION TO THIS REAFFIRMATION OF SOVEREIGNTY BY VIETNAM.

FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF REALITIES, VIETNAMESE AUTHO-RITIES HAVE CONSISTENTLY STATIONED TROOPS AND EXERCISED ADMINISTRATIVE

CONTROL OVER THOSE ARCHIPELAGOS, AND THE VIETNAM NAVY REGULARLY PATROLS AND SUPERVISES NAVIGATIONAL SECURITY IN THE AREA.

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SAJ-01 OMB-01 DRC-01 /187 W
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P 182238Z JAN 74
FM USMISSION USUN NY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2366
INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON PRIORITY
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AMCONSUL HONG KONG PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI PRIORITY

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IN VIEW OF ALL THE PRECISE FACTS LISTED ABOVE, THE
SUDDEN CHALLENGE BY COMMUNIST CHINA OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM'S
SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE PARACELS ARCHIPELAGO AND ITS VIOLATION OF
THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM'S SOVEREIGNTY ARE UNACCEPTABLE. THEY
CONSTITUTE A THREAT TO THE PEACE AND SECURITY OF THIS REGION.

THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM
ARE DETERMINED TO DEFEND THEIR SOVEREIGNTY AND THEIR TERRITORIAL
INTEGRITY AND RESERVE THE RIGHT TO TAKE ALL APPROPRIATE MEASURES
TO THIS END.

THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CONSIDERS THE SITUATION CREATED
BY THE ABOVE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA'S ACTION IS ONE WHICH IS
LIKELY TO ENDANGER INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY. THEREFORE,
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM WISHES TO REQUEST THE
SECURITY COUNCIL TO TAKE ALL APPROPRIATE MEASURES THAT THE COUNCIL
DEEMS NECESSARY TO CORRECT THE SITUATION.....UNQUOTE

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF
VIETNAM AVAILS HIMSELF OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS TO HIS EXCE-
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LLENCY, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS,
THE ASSURANCES OF HIS HIGHEST CONSIDERATION.

SIGNED: VUONG-VAN-BAC
SAIGON, 16 JANUARY 1974
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